ATTACHMENT A
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Amended)   A method of identifying a person by fingerprint/toeprint recognition, consisting in:
-          producing a digital photograph (at 11) giving a digitized image (13) of a fingerprint/toeprint or part of a fingerprint/toeprint (E) present on a surface (3) of an object (12) ;
-          analyzing (15) said digitized image of the fingerprint/toeprint;
-          detecting characteristic points therein;
-          exchanging (16) the digital data of the detected characteristic points with a data bank (17) storing digital data of the characteristic points of a multiplicity of fingerprints/toeprints in its memory, said stored digital data corresponding to plane images of the multiplicity of fingerprints/toeprints;
-          comparing   (18)   the digital data of the abovementioned detected characteristic points with the digital data stored in the memory of the data bank; and identifying a person possessing said fingerprint/toeprint as a result of the above comparison,

characterized, when the fingerprint/toeprint (E) is on a curved surface (3), a pre-established model of a curved semicylindrical or semiconical surface of revolution having a shape corresponding or close to the shape of the curved surface or of a portion of the curved surface, to which the fingerprint/toeprint is fixed, is selected, information about the respective positions of the two diametrically opposed generatrices visible in the digitized image is sent to algorithm below a predetermined threshold, by projecting it onto a plane using said algorithm processing means, said corrected image showing the characteristic points of said fingerprint/toeprint in a plane, whereby said plane corrected image is used for detecting the characteristic points of the fingerprint/toeprint and for identifying the person.

2. (Previously Amended)   The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the algorithm processing means associate, with each point in the initial digitized image of the fingerprint/toeprint rolled up on the curved surface, a point lying in a projection plane such that the linear distance of said point in the plane relative to the projection of the axis of said surface is equal to the curvilinear distance of said point in the initial image relative to the projection of said axis onto said surface.

3. (Previously Amended)   The method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that, at any point (P) in the projection plane, the algorithm processing means determine a projected point (P1) such that :

$$O_1P_1 = r\cos(\pi/2 - O_1P/r)$$

being the projection of the axis of the surface onto said plane and r being the estimated radius of the curved surface, and then associate with the projected point (P1) in the plane, a point (P2) on the curved surface, the projected point (P1) of which is the projection on the plane.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, characterized in that, if the fingerprint/toeprint (E) is found affixed to a surface of complex shape, the image (3) of said surface of complex shape is broken down into partial images (3a, 3b, 3c) of surfaces of simple shape, in that each partial image (2Aa, 2Ab, 2Ac) is processed in relation to the shape of the respective surface in order to obtain corrected partial images (213a, 2Bb, 213c) and in that the corrected partial images are juxtaposed so as to obtain a corrected image of the fingerprint/toeprint as a mosaic.